17:50

WOLVERHAMPTON (A.W) - 1m 1f - TALKSPORT POWERED BY FANS EBF NOVICE STAKES (GBB RACE) (5) 2YO, Class 5

ORDER OF MALTA - No Rating.* Unraced Colt out of Along Came Casey by Lope De Vega * Hugo Palmer/Cieren Fallon, Previous Runs 0, Cost 120,000 Guineas as a Yearling. Fifth foal, brother to 7f-9f winner Feliciana De Vega who was 2 from 2 as a Two-Year-Old including on the AW in Listed Company and a turf Group 3 winner as a Three-Year-Old, RPR 111), half-brother to 7f-9f AW winner Abnaa (73), dam 9f-9.4f winner (including Listed, 111). Sire was himself a high-class Two-Year-Old, French 2,000 Guineas/Derby winner and now a quality sire. **No AW Speed Figure yet**. Looks bred for this test on debut although the yards Two-Year-Old debutantes are only 2 from 39 so far this year they were 3 from 5 with them here from 2019 to 2021 including over this trip. <u>Advice: Would want to see market support before getting involved.</u>

BEND THE LIGHT - Rated 49, AW Rating Rank 6, AW Speed Rank 6* May Filly out of Loch Mirage by Australia * Sylvester Kirk/Darragh Keenan, Previous Runs 1, Cost Unknown. Second foal, half-sister to French 9½f AW winner Welcome Sight (RPR 82), dam unraced sister to Listed-placed 6f winner City Girl. Sire Won Group 3 as a Two-Year-Old, outstanding Three-Year-Old, including Derby & Irish Derby. **80 AW Speed Figure**. The yard haven't had a winner since April and are now 0 from 74 since. <u>Advice: Hard to recommend and likely one for Handicaps further down the line.</u>

CHARLOTTE SQUARE - No Rating.* Unraced Filly out of Le Badie by Nathaniel * Andrew Balding/William Cox, Previous Runs 0, Cost 78,000 Guineas as a Yearling, 28,000 Guineas as a Foal. Eighth foal, half-sister to winners Montaly (9f-2m2f including as a Two-Year-Old/Group 2, RPR 114), Farleigh Mac (6f including GB as a Two-Year-Old/Macau, 83), Farletti (9f, 78) & Havana Jane (7f AW, 64), dam Listed-placed Italian 7f-9f winner (97). Sire winner of the King George & Eclipse. **No AW Speed Figure yet.** Mixed messages on pedigree and the yard are just 5 from 90 with their Two-Year-Olds on debut so far in 2022, 2 from 73 since the beginning of July and 0 from 26 since September. <u>Advice: Hard to recommend.</u>

MIGHTY RIVER (IRE) - Rated 87, **AW Rating Rank 1**, AW Speed Rank 3* February Colt out of Coral Garden by Siyouni * James Tate/Rossa Ryan, Previous Runs 2, Cost Unknown. Fourth foal, half-brother to 12f-14f winner Garden Paradise (including AW Listed, RPR 111), dam once-raced (50) sister to 15f/15½f Group 2 winner Coastal Path. Sire top-class Two-Year-Old winner over 5-7f, Group1 placed over 9f as a Three-Year-Old, sire of St Mark's Basilica and Sottsass. **90 AW Speed Figure**. Did show some promise on soft ground at Doncaster on debut in October and did well in the circumstances last time out at Kempton and would have been even more involved if he hadn't been forced to wait for a run in the home straight. <u>Advice: Should be suited by the extra furlong and one for the shortlist.</u>

SWEET MEMORIES (IRE) - No Rating.* Unraced Filly out of Time Control by Sea The Stars * John & Thady Gosden/Kieran O'Neill, Previous Runs 0, Cost 680,000 Guineas as a Yearling. Ninth foal, half-sister to winners Cursory Glance who was only raced as a Two-Year-Old, winning 3 of her 4 starts over 6f-7f including in Group 1 Company, RPR 112 (who herself has since produced 112 RPR Tinker Toy and 98 RPR Voodoo Queen), Blowing Dixie (12f AW, 92), Beautiful Timing (Fr 9f) and Qayes (Fr 6f), dam 10f winner (77), sister to 12f Group 2 winner Time On. Sire Group 2 9f Two-Year-Old, exceptional 6-time Group 1 winner as a Three-Year-Old, including Guineas/Derby/Arc. No AW Speed Figure yet. One of two well-bred debutantes for the Gosden yard and bred to be a decent Two-Year-Old albeit possibly better over shorter. <u>Advice: The yard do send some decent Two-Year-Olds here, but the market will be the best guide.</u>

CLUB MANAGER - Rated 64, AW Rating Rank 5, AW Speed Rank 5* April Colt out of Averami by Nathaniel * Andrew Balding/Hayley Turner, Previous Runs 2, Cost Unknown. Tenth foal, half-brother to seven winners including Side Glance (6f-10f including as a Two-Year-Old/Australian Group 1, RPR 119), Taglietelle (12f-2m including AW, 90/smart 2m-3m hurdle) and Rawaki. (8.6f-14f including AW, 112), dam 7f AW winner (59) Sire winner of the King George & Eclipse. **84 AW Speed Figure**. 121/2L behind the Roger Varian runner on debut without any obvious excuse. <u>Advice: Hard to recommend.</u>

ITHACA'S ARROW - No Rating.* April Colt out of Eyeshine by Ulysses * Dominic Ffrench Davis/Joshua Bryan, Previous Runs 1, Cost 35,000 Guineas as a Yearling. Second foal, half-brother to French 12½f winner Maloja, dam 12f AW winner (RPR 89). Sire Extremely well-bred, Group 3 winner as a Three-Year-Old, won Coral-Eclipse and Juddmonte International as a Four-Year-Old. **No AW Speed Figure yet**. Does hold an entry in the 2023 Epsom Derby and the yard's Two-Year-Old non-debutantes are 6 from 22 so far this year. <u>Advice: Lively outsider.</u>

BURDETT ROAD - Rated 85, AW Rating Rank 2, **AW Speed Rank 1*** March Colt out of Diamond Bangle by Muhaarar * Roger Varian/David Egan, Previous Runs 2, Cost 18,000 Guineas as a Foal. fourth foal, dam unraced sister to 5 winners from 7f-12f notably Rip Van Winkle (9f-10f Group 1). Sire exceptional sprinter as a Three-Year-Old, also Gimcrack Stakes winner as a Two-Year-Old. **92 AW Speed Figure**. He was strong in the market when stepped up to this CD last time out, he had a nice trip most of the way, but he got stuck in behind the weakening leader on the turn allowing the winner to get first run out wide. He was possibly an unlucky loser. <u>Advice: Disappointed if not going close.</u> **THE BUNT** - No Rating.* Unraced Colt out of Buntingford by Cracksman * Simon & Ed Crisford/Jack Mitchell, Previous Runs 0, Cost Unknown. Third foal, half-brother to bumper/2m hurdle winner Staging Post, dam unraced. Sire 9f winner as Two-Year-Old, champion Three-Year-Old colt & four time Group 1 winner as a Three to Four-Year-Old, including dual Champion Stakes. No AW Speed Figure yet. Looks bred for much further. The yard are 4 from 11 with their debutantes since the beginning of September but this possibly isn't their track. <u>Advice: Market interesting but percentage call to watch</u>.

DEMILION (IRE) - Rated 83, AW Rating Rank 3, AW Speed Rank 2* April Colt out of Cascading by Roaring Lion * Charlie & Mark Johnston/Franny Norton, Previous Runs 1, Cost 67,000 Guineas as a Yearling. Fourth foal, half-brother to French 9f Two-Year-Old winner Gran Sabana (RPR 87) & 7f-9f winner Fiordland (GB AW/Australia, 80), dam Listed-placed 12f winner (100). Sire Son of Kitten's Joy, 4 times Group 1 winner, placed in Racing Post Trophy & Derby. **91 AW Speed Figure**. He was friendless in the market but ran with plenty of credit on his debut here over a furlong shorter finishing 3½L behind a decent looking animal FROM THE Charlie Appleby bandwagon . He should benefit from that outing. <u>Advice: Market interesting but percentage call to watch</u>.

CIARA STORM - No Rating.* February Filly out of Francisca by Nathaniel * Freddie & Martyn Meade/Richard Kingscote, Previous Runs 2, Cost Unknown was WD from Yearling Sale. Fifth foal, half-sister to 12f AW winner Sea Battle (RPR 68), dam US 8½f/9½f turf winner. Sire winner of the King George & Eclipse, brother to Great Heavens and from a top-class family. No AW Speed Figure yet. Finished tenth on her debut at Newbury over 7f. She improved nicely when well backed on testing ground at Nottingham last time out when stepped up in trip. <u>Advice: There should be more to come over this longer trip but suspicions are possible one for next year.</u>

CLOUD ANGEL - No Rating.* Unraced Filly out of Angel Terrace by Frankel * John & Thady Gosden/David Probert, Previous Runs 0, Cost Unknown. Fifth foal, closely related to winners Australian Angel (11f-14f, RPR 90), New Angel (9f on the AW, RPR 75) & Eagle Terrace (2m hurdle), dam US 8½f-1½f turf/AW winner (including Grade 3, 102). Sire Highest-ever rated racehorse by RPRs, unbeaten 10-time Group 1 winner. No AW Speed Figure yet. The second of the Gosden pair and doesn't look as readily appealing. <u>Advice: Interesting to see how she goes in the betting, especially in relation to stablemate Sweet</u> <u>Memories.</u>

CONCLUSION

Both **MIGHTY RIVER**, **BURDETT ROAD** and **DEMILION** are closely matched and set the standard, albeit not that high of a one. On pedigree **SWEET MEMORIES** looks one of the more likely newcomers but at the prices I thought **ORDER OF MALTA** and **ITHACA'S ARROW** could outrun their odds.

I am always reluctant to post my fancies in the <u>CONCLUSION</u> paragraph, as many take them as selections. The majority of My Bets aren't placed until the final 5 minutes of betting as many factors influence the final decision, for example Track bias, Market Expectation etc. The perfect example being Newcastle yesterday (2nd Dec), as I mentioned in the All Weather "Fast Track Qualifier" that... "FINE WINE: Is a speedy individual and may take some catching if allowed an easy lead. He is 5 from 12 over a straight 5f on Tapeta, including this CD. He is more than likely going to try and steal this from the front and depending on track conditions may just do so" ...it was evident from previous races that the track wasn't the usual hinderance to front runners and that connections weren't overly enthusiastic over the chances of LOGO HUNTER.

WOLVERHAMPTON (A.W) - 6f - IT'S TIME TO TURN TO TALKSPORT NOVICE STAKES (AW CHAMPIONSHIPS FAST-TRACK QUALIFIER) (GBB RACE) (2) 2YO, Class 2

FLAG FLYING - Rated 85, AW Rating Rank 2, AW Speed Rank 5* January Gelding out of Gavota by Starspangledbanner * David Loughnane/Richard Kingscote, Previous Runs 3, Cost Unknown. First foal to a decent dam who won exclusively as a Two-Year-Old winning her First 2 starts over 6f and 7f and went close in Group Company as a Two-Year-Old over 7f. **95 AW Speed Figure**. Recently bought for 38,000 Guineas after 3 runs for Roger Charlton, possibly didn't show the expected improvement after winning a decent race on debut at Goodwood, running a Performance Rating of 92 but regressed thereafter running to 85 and then just 68 last time out (ground possibly an excuse). The yard can get their stable-switchers ready on debut but are yet to have a Two-Year-Old win on stable debut and their Juveniles were 0 from 7 in November. <u>Advice: Likely to be well backed for an enthusiastic owner, percentage call to watch</u>

HAVANA BY THE SEA (IRE) - Rated 88, AW Rating Rank 1, AW Speed Rank 1* February Filly out of Made Of Talent by Havana Grey * Craig Lidster/Paul Mulrennan, Previous Runs 6, Cost 30,000 Guineas as a Yearling. First foal to a 4 race maiden. **103** AW Speed Figure. Disappointed when fairly well fancied for a Class 3 York handicap, and then weakened when trying to keep up with now 104 rated Never Just A Dream in a strong Conditions Event at Newcastle in October, she was at least 15lbs wrong in the weights then but made no mistake last time out in a much less competitive Nursery again at Newcastle, proving herself well treated off 77, bolting up for an easy 5L success. Connections opt for another Conditions Event albeit not so strong, but she now has to prove herself as effective on a turning track. <u>Advice: Shortlist material, interesting if seeing support.</u>

TENJIN - Rated 84, AW Rating Rank 3, AW Speed Rank 2* April Gelding out of Notary by Night Of Thunder * Marco Botti/David Probert, Previous Runs 5, Cost 100,000 Guineas as a Yearling, 45,000 Guineas as a Foal. Third foal, dam 7f Two-Year-Old winner (RPR 83) out of unraced sister to 9f Group 1 winner Virtual. Sire 6f Listed winner as a Two-Year-Old, top miler as a Three to Four-Year-Old, won 2,000 Guineas & Lockinge. **101 AW Speed Figure**. Couldn't get to the winner and confirm a recent success over her last time out at Kempton. He should be suited by this track on pedigree, but I am not sure that her run style will be as effective here. The yard were 1 from 12 in November with their Two-Year-Olds. <u>Advice: Should run his race but likely to need a strong gallop.</u>

SHAQUILLE - No Rating.* April Colt out of Magic by Charm Spirit * Julie Camacho/Graham Lee, Previous Runs 3, Cost Unknown. Second foal to an unraced Galileo dam. Other progeny was 0 from 19. No AW Speed Figure yet. His only defeat came in Group 3 Company behind some really useful rivals including the 119 rated winner Chaldean. He returned to winning ways last time out when he showed plenty of pace in the first-time hood and always looked to be holding his rivals in a York Novice Event running a Performance Rating of 91. The hood is removed today, and he has to prove himself as effective on a turning AW surface. <u>Advice: Form does look a little below what is needed Handicaps look the way forward.</u>

SWIFT ASSET (IRE) - No Rating.* April Colt out of Flick Show by Profitable * Richard Hannon/Rossa Ryan, Previous Runs 6, Cost 50,000 Guineas as a Yearling. First foal to an unraced dam. **No AW Speed Figure yet**. Has contested some strong races including finishing just 6¼L behind Royal Scotsman in Group 2 Company but My Performance Figures suggest that he is regressing, and stable form wouldn't fill me with confidence that he will have improved returning from an 86 day break. **Advice: Happy to leave personally.**

LOOKING FOR LYNDA (IRE) - No Rating.* March Gelding out of Designated by Unfortunately * K R Burke/Sam James, Previous Runs 7, Cost 12,000 Guineas as a Yearling, 12,000 Guineas as a Foal. First foal of a 3 race maiden. **No AW Speed Figure yet**. Is My clear Top Rated on Overall Performance Figures, running to a mark of around 102 last time out at York finishing almost 12L in front of **HAVANA BY THE SEA** and meets that rival on 18lbs better terms here. He makes his AW debut here, the Two-Year-Old progeny of Unfortunately are 4 from 11 on Tapeta and 3 from 8 here so the track shouldn't be an issue. The yard were 3 from 14 in November with their Two-Year-Olds and have a decent record with their Two-Year-Olds making their AW debut here. <u>Advice: Most likely winner.</u>

HARRY MAGNUS (IRE) - Rated 77, AW Rating Rank 6, AW Speed Rank 3* February Colt out of Music And Dance by Harry Angel * Charles Hills/Cieren Fallon, Previous Runs 2, Cost 125,000 Guineas as a Yearling, 55,000 Guineas as a Foal. Fourth foal to a dam whose only win from 7 starts came over7f at Kempton as a Two-Year-Old. Related to a Two-Year-Old winner over 5f. **94 AW Speed Figure**. Was returning from wind surgery last time out and given a very suspect ride over CD when finishing strongly from the back of the field running comfortably the quickest final 2f (almost ½sec faster than the winner). The stewards enquired into the ride and noted the jockey's explanation *"HARRY MAGNUS was slow into stride from the stalls, ran greenly with an awkward head carriage and tended to hang right-handed in the early stages. He added that he was*

mindful that this was the colt's first run following wind surgery and was therefore keen to ensure he got home in his race". The yards Two-Year-Olds were 0 from 12 in November but it is interesting that they pitch him in to this level on only his third start, considering he may well have plenty more to offer. <u>Advice: Definitely worth a market check from this yard but suspect</u> <u>he is one for Handicaps.</u>

DANGER ALERT - Rated 93, AW Rating Rank 4, AW Speed Rank 4* April Gelding out of Sandy Times by Ardad * George Boughey/William Buick, Previous Runs 6, Cost 165,000 Guineas as a Two-Year-Old, 150,000 Guineas as a Yearling. Fourth foal, brother to 5f turf and 6f AW (Group 3) Two-Year-Old winner Eve Lodge (RPR 101), half-brother to winners Mirror Kisses (5f Two-Year-Old, 73) and Twin Grey (Italian 7½f/11½f), dam unplaced 6½f-9.4f (58) Sire £170,000 Two-Year-Old, high-class juvenile sprinter, including Group 2 Flying Childers Stakes. **98 AW Speed Figure**. He was up in trip for his AW debut, here last time out, but found one stronger for the fourth time in succession, he was slowly away and keen early before having to make his challenge wide off the final bend, so it is fair to say that things didn't go to plan. It was a weak finishing effort, suggesting that 7f was a shade too far but he has been a beaten at short odds on his last 3 starts. The yard's non-debutante Two-Year-Olds were in flying form last month with 7 winners from 32 runners. Advice: Clearly capable but risky proposition

CONCLUSION

LOOKING FOR LYNDA was going to be one of my strongest bets for some time but I have to admit that I am very concerned by the weakness in the market, especially from this yard as their Two-Year-Olds are just 2 from 50 this year when the drift from their early odds to SP is more than 50%.